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Montesquieu, in the middle of the eighteenth century, like Machiavelli, at the beginning of the sixteenth, stands somewhat isolated from the general current of political theory. Montesquieu undertook to blend politics with jurisprudence, economics and general social science, while the tendency of his contemporaries was to differentiate these various sciences. He stood for history, observation and broad generalization as the method of approach to political and social truth. The reciprocal reaction of legislation on the one hand, and morals and manners on the other, is always in the mind of the philosopher.

This volume, like the one covering the previous period, is a well-made summary of the ideas of the writers of the sixteenth to the eighteenth century. The interrelation of political and religious ideas is carefully worked out. While full of much that is interesting, the work, taken as a whole, lacks interest. There is too much of meat without proper and attractive setting. For one who desires a general survey of the ideas of political writers of this period, the book will fill a long-felt want, but there is a decided lack of critical analysis which, to the student of political institutions, leaves much to be desired.

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Fleming, Walter L. *Civil War and Reconstruction in Alabama*. Pp. xxiv, 815. Price, \$5.00. New York: Columbia University Press, 1905.

Students of southern history have awaited a book like the one under consideration for a long time. There has been a surfeit of treatises dealing with the political aspect of reconstruction, and one who works out the subject from the point of view of national politics must travel far afield to find new material. Within the past few years the diarists and writers of reminiscence have had their hearing in court. John S. Wise, in *The End of an Era*, Mrs. Pryor's *Reminiscences*, Mrs. Clay's *A Belle of the Fifties*, and the charming *Diary from Dixes* by Mrs. Senator Chestnut, of South Carolina, have delighted all students of the period now under consideration; but these, almost without exception, have limited themselves specifically to the period of the Civil War. To that extent they are valuable, and will be *memoires pour servir* for future writers.

Dr. Fleming set before himself not merely the study of the reconstruction, in and of itself, but further an account of the ante-bellum conditions, social, economic and political, and of the effect of the Civil War upon them. Internal conditions in Alabama during the war period are discussed at some length, and special emphasis is laid upon the social problems. The division of the state into "white" counties and "black" counties exercised the strongest influence upon the development of the people. The problems of the "black belt" varied greatly from the questions which compelled settlement in the northern hill counties.

The various political movements in the state preceding the secession convention in 1861 are, in view of their importance, somewhat cursorily dealt with. In order to understand the factors in the reconstruction problem it is quite essential that their origin and development should be kept in mind. These various factors were: 1st, the slave holders owning large plantations in the fertile parts of the state, who were generally Whigs in national politics, at least prior to 1856; 2d, the small slave holders, residing in or near the local centers of population, who were more commonly Democratic in national politics; 3d, non-slave holding whites; 4th, the negroes, and 5th, the carpet bagger. To understand the attitude of the non-slave holding whites during the period in question it is essential that one should study carefully the position held by them during the political debates between 1848 and 1856. That they were jealous of the ruling class and looked with suspicion and envy upon their estates is certain. If they voted with them on occasions, it was because generally they were led by their emotions rather than by their sober judgment. Undoubtedly many of these so-called poor whites were not enthusiastic during the war and were not dissatisfied with its result. Whether they were loyal to the North or not is of not so much consequence as that they were more or less secretly disloyal to the South. In the ante-bellum period society was certainly not homogeneous, socially and politically. The results of the elections to the various secession conventions prove this beyond question. To call all those who did not sympathize with the Democratic party during the reconstruction period "Unionists" or "Loyalists" emphasizes the weaker side of the question. The important thing to keep in mind is that there were, even during the reconstruction period, as there are to-day, a large number of native born white citizens in the South who have not and do not now sympathize with the ruling political party. The author might well have developed this part of his subject at greater length, and this leads to what is perhaps the most serious criticism of an otherwise thoroughly well done piece of work—that is, lack of proportion and unevenness of treatment. The war period and presidential reconstruction to 1866 occupies more than one-half of the book. Most of the other half of the book deals with educational, religious and social conditions down to 1868. Out of over eight hundred pages less than two hundred deal with the conditions which were actually prevalent during the interval between the reconstruction convention of 1868 and the overthrow of reconstruction in 1874. It is unfortunate that the author has not realized more accurately the importance of this period. To understand thoroughly why the South feels as bitterly as it does, and with much good reason, the many indignities heaped upon it during this period it is essential that we should have a clear idea of the state and local governments during this period. While the state had abundant cause to complain of injustice, its bitterest reproach has been cast at the North for the legislation which put the negro in power and gave him unbridled license, more particularly with respect to the persons and property of the proscribed whites. Statements of the amount of money stolen by the reconstruction party operating under various guises

is, of course, of some importance, but it would be more significant to learn more of the operation of the state legislature and the local taxing bodies, and it does not meet the point to say that not very much was accomplished in legislation during this period. The spirit in which this book is written and the personal equation of the writer are fairly open to criticism. In his treatment of the conduct of the Freedmen's Bureau by General Swayne, in his casual remarks relative of Whigs like George W. Hilliard, who were prominent before the war, in his reference to General George H. Thomas the author indicates that the process of reconstruction has not been fully completed in his own case.

Dr. Fleming is certainly entitled to great praise and credit for his treatment of the social and economic conditions prevalent in the state during the war. He has not left much for any subsequent writer to say about the fraudulent confiscation of cotton. In his discussion of the educational system, and especially the reconstruction of the various religious bodies in the state, he has done a thoroughly good piece of work. His treatment of the Ku-Klux outbreak is on the whole fair and impartial, and he is entitled to be congratulated on having had access to the original constitution of the order. He emphasizes, and justly, the value of the eleven volumes of the Congressional report on the Ku-Klux conspiracy. We may question, however, whether so much of this monumental work as deals with his own state should, as he says, be read with a biographical dictionary at hand. The evidence speaks for itself, and one accustomed to weighing evidence carefully can easily make his own corrections and allowances by following closely the statements of various parties called on both sides. On the whole, the author is to be commended for a scholarly and critical treatment of a most highly important historical epoch.

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Goodnow, Frank J. *The Principles of the Administrative Law of the United States*. Pp. xxvii, 480. Price, \$3.00. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1905.

It is more than twelve years since Professor Goodnow published his *Comparative Administrative Law*, which was the first work in the English language dealing with the general subject. It contained an analysis of the administrative systems of the United States, England, France and Germany, while the present volume is confined to the United States. The publication of this work, following so closely upon the appearance of Professor Wyman's *Principles of Administrative Law*, indicates a growing interest in this subject among American students. This is all the more noteworthy when it is recalled that administrative law was not recognized in the United States when Professor Goodnow published his first work, which may be said to have introduced the subject in this country.

The new volume, which follows in general the plan of the former work,